

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 7205

C O N F I D E N T I A L OECD PARIS 13210

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OECD

SUBJECT: IEA: SECRETARY'S COMPREHENSIVE SCENARIO FOR
IEA MINISTERIAL MEETING

REF: A) STATE 120694 B) USOECD PARIS 12884

1. REFTTEL A PROPOSES SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER IEA MINISTERIAL BE SCHEDULED FOR 1900 AT RESIDENCE. MISSION BELIEVES THIS WOULD CAUSE SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS FOR FOLLOWING REASON: AS INDICATED REF B, GOVERNING BOARD NOT LIKELY FINISH BEFORE 1815, MEANING THAT VAN ELSLANDE'S PRESS CONFERENCE AT OECD WILL PROBABLY NOT BE HELD UNTIL 1830. IF SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE IS HELD ACROSS TOWN AT EMBASSY AT 1900, JOURNALISTS WILL HAVE TO LEAVE OECD BY ABOUT 1835 BECAUSE OF RUSH HOUR TRAFFIC. THIS WOULD CREATE A DIRECT CONFLICT WITH VAN ELSLAND BRIEFING. REPS AT MAY 20 IEA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING ALL AGREED THAT MINISTERS WOULD NOT SCHEDULE THEIR OWN PRESS CONFERENCES IN SUCH WAY AS TO CONFLICT WITH CHAIRMAN'S.

2. MISSION/EMBASSY THEREFORE RECOMMENDS CONFERENCE BE SCHEDULED AT EMBASSY AT 1930. THIS SHOULD ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME FOR PRESS TO ATTEND BOTH CONFERENCES.
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3. ACTION REQUESTED: IN ORDER TO ARRANGE APPROPRIATE
PRESS BRIEFING FACILITIES WE NEED KNOW SOONEST WHETHER
ABOVE SCHEDULE CHANGE IS APPROVED.
TURNER

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NNN

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